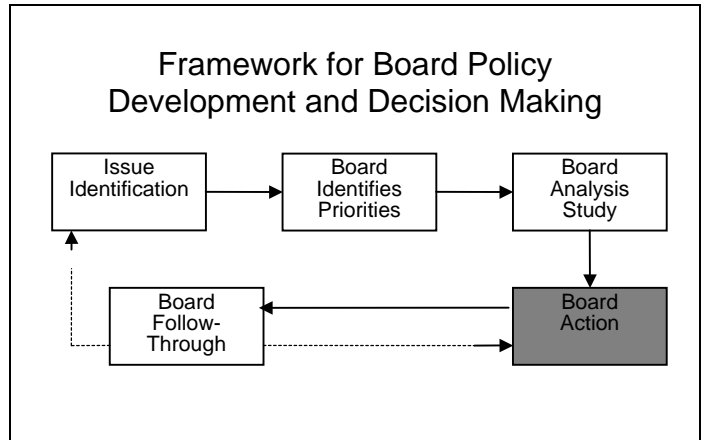


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

March 8, 2007



Agenda Item: Chapter 12 rules, Accreditation, Notice of Intended Action

Iowa Goal: 2. All K-12 students will achieve at high levels, prepared for success beyond high school.

Equity Impact Statement: All school districts are equally impacted by these proposed rules. Enactment of the proposed rules will enhance public school students' access to resource materials and improve their abilities to navigate materials available through a variety of media.

Presenter: Carol Greta, Legal Counsel

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board give public notice of its intent to amend Chapter 12 to include this new rule.

Background: 2006 Iowa Acts, Chapter 1182 (sections 2 and 3) amended accreditation statutes to require that each school district have a qualified (licensed by the Board of Educational Examiners) teacher librarian. The new legislation also required that the State Board establish in rule a definition of and standards for an articulated sequential kindergarten through grade twelve media program.

These rules are in compliance with new Iowa Code § 256.11(9) and amended § 256.11A.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT [281]

Notice of Intended Action

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby proposes to amend Chapter 12, "General Accreditation Standards," Iowa Administrative Code.

2006 Iowa Acts, Chapter 1182 (sections 2 and 3) amended accreditation statutes to require that each school district have a qualified (licensed by the Board of Educational Examiners) teacher librarian. The new legislation also required that the State Board establish in rule a definition of and standards for an articulated sequential kindergarten through grade twelve media program. These rules are in compliance with new Iowa Code § 256.11(9) and amended § 256.11A.

An agency-wide waiver provision is provided in 281—chapter 4.

Interested individuals may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before April 17, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. Comments on the proposed amendments should be directed to Carol Greta, Attorney 3, Iowa Department of Education, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146; telephone (515)281-8661; E-mail carol.greta@iowa.gov; or fax (515)281-4122.

A public hearing will be held on April 17, 2007, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. at the State Board Room, Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments should contact and advise the Department of Education of their specific needs by calling (515)281-5295.

These amendments are intended to implement 2006 Iowa Acts, Chapter 1182 (sections 2 and 3).

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend rule **281—12.2(256)** to add the following new definition in alpha order:

“Library program” means an articulated, sequential kindergarten through grade 12 library or media program that enhances student achievement and is integral to the school district’s curricula and instructional program. Library programs are planned and implemented by a qualified teacher librarian working collaboratively with the district’s administration and instructional staff. The library program services provided to students and staff shall include the following:

- Support of the overall school curricula,
- Collaborative planning and teaching,
- Promotion of reading and literacy,
- Information literacy instruction,
- Access to a diverse and appropriate school library collection, and
- Learning enhancement through technologies.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 281—12.3(11) as follows:

12.3(11) *Policy required relating to health services, ~~media services programs~~ and guidance programs.* The board of directors of each school district and the authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school shall adopt a local policy relating to health services, ~~media services programs~~ and guidance programs. The policy shall state whether or not the services shall be provided. This subrule shall not be interpreted to require schools and school districts to provide or to offer health services, ~~media services~~ or guidance programs.

ITEM 3. Adopt new subrule 281—12.3(12) as follows:

12.3(12) *Standards for library program.* The board of directors of each school district shall establish a K-12 library program to support the student achievement goals of the total school curriculum.

A qualified teacher librarian, licensed by the board of educational examiners, who works with students, teachers, support staff and administrators will direct the library program and provide services and instruction in support of building curricular goals. The teacher librarian is a member of the building’s instructional team with special expertise in identifying resources and technologies to support teaching and learning. The teacher librarian and classroom teachers will collaborate to develop, teach, and evaluate building curricular goals with emphasis on promoting inquiry and critical thinking; providing information literacy learning experiences to help students access, evaluate, use, create, and communicate information; enhancing learning and teaching through technology; and promoting literacy through reader guidance and activities that develop capable and independent readers.

The library program shall also be designed to meet the following goals: (a) to provide for methods to improve library collections to meet student and staff needs; (b) to make connections with parents and the community; (c) to support the district’s school improvement plan; (d) to provide access or support for professional development for the teacher librarian; (e) to provide current technology and electronic resources to assure that students become skillful and discriminating users of information; (f) to include a current and diverse collection of fiction and non-fiction in a variety of formats to support student and curricular needs; and (g) to include a plan for annual updating and replacing of library materials, supports, and equipment. The program shall be regularly reviewed and revised.

The board of directors of each school district shall adopt a policy for selection and reconsideration of school library materials, and policies regarding confidentiality of student library records, and legal and ethical use of information resources.